

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 2331 - HB 2590

March 5, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires a law enforcement officer who takes a child into custody for the commission of an offense that would be considered a misdemeanor if committed by an adult and issues a citation to the child in lieu of continued custody to make efforts to contact a parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the child if the officer deems it to be appropriate.

Authorizes a court to commit a delinquent child to the custody of the Department of Children's Services (DCS), if the offense for which the child was found delinquent would constitute a misdemeanor if committed by an adult, and the child was previously adjudicated delinquent for certain other offenses.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$5,741,400/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years

Increase Federal Expenditures - \$4,290,600/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years

Assumptions:

- Granting a law enforcement officer the ability to contact the guardian of a child in their custody will not have an impact of law enforcement resources.
- It is estimated that 80 additional minors will be committed to DCS custody as a result of this legislation.
- DCS will need to contract with private providers for the placement of the additional minors.
- The daily contract rate for a child adjudicated by the juvenile justice system is \$333.72.
- Therefore, the increase in expenditures for placing delinquent children is estimated to be \$9,744,700 (80 children x \$333.72 x 365 days) in FY22-23 and subsequent years.
- The recurring increase in expenditures of \$9,744,700 will consist of \$5,570,400 in state funding and \$4,174,000 in federal funding.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 37-5-132(a)(2), DCS is required to maintain staffing levels of case managers to allow caseloads not to exceed an average of 20 children monitored and supervised in active cases relating to ongoing services.
- Based on current staffing levels, DCS will require five additional case manager positions beginning in FY22-23.

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- The increase in expenditures associated with the additional positions is estimated to be \$287,266 (\$216,650 salaries + \$70,616 benefits) in FY22-23 and subsequent years.
- The recurring increase in expenditures of \$287,266 will consist of \$170,966 in state funding and \$116,300 in federal funding.
- A total increase in state expenditures of \$5,741,366 (\$5,570,400 placement + \$170,966 staffing) in FY22-23 and subsequent years.
- A total increase in federal expenditures of \$4,290,600 (\$4,174,300 placement + \$116,300 staffing) in FY22-23 and subsequent years.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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